天山北麓二齿兽属一新种

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这里介绍的是我国发现的第二个二迭纪二齿兽类化石,它和杨锺健记述的第一个二齿兽头骨一样,是袁复礼新疆搜集品中的一个,两者在形态上相差很大,但化石的确切地点和层位同样不清楚¹³。

二齿兽属中除了极少数生存到三迭纪初期,绝大多数都生活在上二迭世。 到三迭纪 开始,其地位便为水龙兽和后期的肯氏兽类所代替。由于它在划分二、三迭纪地层时代上 是一个较好的标志,因此虽然产地层位不清,仍有必要加以记述。

这一头骨比前一二齿兽要小得多(长约120毫米),连同下颌一起被保存在一灰绿色粉砂岩结核里。所有露出部分,如吻端、间颞部、两侧颧弓均因风化而不同程度地受损,但其他部分保存完好。

标本描述(标本编号: V. 3260)

背视: 为较小的二齿兽类。头骨外形略呈长圆形, 颧弓和鳞骨不怎么向外扩张, 自眼孔后部直至枕平面在宽度上变化很小。背部扁平。吻部短而宽。眼孔大, 上视, 长度大于

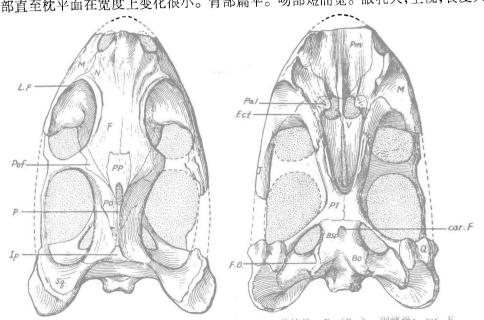


图 1. 头骨的背视和腹视, 2/3 原大。简字说明: BO, 基枕骨; Bsp(Psp), 副蝶骨; car. F., 血管孔; Ect, 外翼骨; F, 额骨; F.O., 卵圆孔; lp, 间顶骨; J, 颧骨; L.F, 泪孔; M, 上颌骨; N, 鼻骨; P, 顶骨; Pal, 腭骨; Pm, 前颌骨; PO, 眶后骨; Pof, 后额骨; PP, 前顶骨; PT, 翼骨; Q, 方骨; Sq, 鳞骨; V、锄骨。

¹⁾ 根据袁复礼记忆,化石产自阜康境内白杨河一带。

宽度,位置显著前移。颞孔只比眼孔稍长一点,呈椭圆形。颞间距和眼间距相等。间颞部后端残破,但从保存着的前端可以看出此处形成不太高的顶脊。松果孔长圆形,向前上方开口,其末端位于颞孔的将近中线部位。额部平坦,唯前顶骨表面呈粗糙现象。左右鼻骨中部稍隆起,鼻突较清楚。

头骨前部除鼻骨与上颌骨之间的界线外,其余骨缝都不清楚。 左右眼孔前上方边缘 均有骨头破碎痕迹,此处先前似为一条突起,也可能即前额骨所在。眼孔后面,前顶骨较 宽大。在前顶骨两侧,后额骨向前侧方伸展,直达眼孔边缘。眶后骨较宽,在间颞部几将 顶骨全部掩盖,向后延伸而中止于顶骨末端。

侧视:上颌骨齿突中等发育,使该骨外形几成斜四方形,但无牙齿长出。齿突后面亦无犬后齿(Post-canine teeth)存在。在上颌骨上方,泪骨组成了眼眶前下方的底缘,向内伸展形成眼孔前部的基底面。泪孔十分清楚。眼孔后的眶后骨弓较纤弱。右侧颧弓后端连同眶后骨弓缺失,左侧亦稍受损。

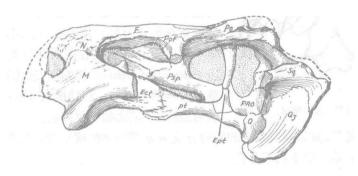


图 2. 头骨侧视(切除颧弓部分)。2/3 原大。简字说明: Ept, 上翼骨; PRO, 前耳骨; Psp, 副蝶骨; QJ, 方颧骨。其余见图 1。

在鳞骨下方,方颧骨特别发育,其上翼一直上伸到鳞骨的颧弓支基部;在其内侧的方骨则相对地较小,方骨与方颧骨之间有孔相隔。

脑颅周围骨壁不完全,顶骨不增深,上翼骨与前面的副蝶骨上突之间以及前者与后面的前耳骨之间均有颇大的空隙。前耳骨与邻近的上枕骨等界线均观察不清。

上翼骨细而长,位于颞孔的中部,自顶端垂直向下,不向后倾斜。基部位置较靠前,不在翼骨的方骨支上而在翼骨本部侧方。上翼骨分上下两部分,相接处靠近下部,也可能下部者为上翼骨,而上部者系顶骨向下之分支?因顶端保存不好,与顶骨之关系未能了解清楚。

脑颅基底部副蝶骨比较高,与翼骨的腭骨分支平行向前,至眶后骨弓处稍向外扩张, 分出一分支向上,与下面的翼骨和锄骨间留下一条长长的缝隙——翼骨间孔。

腹视: 头骨腹侧最显著的是宽大的翼骨间凹(Interpterygoid fossa), 呈长长的心脏形, 长度占头骨全长的三分之一。由于内鼻孔两侧的向内挤缩, 使此凹前端变窄。

前上颌骨宽大。因吻端未保存,故次生腭上前侧腭脊发育情况不知,仅在后端留有微 獨痕迹。由前上颌骨和后面锄骨共同组成的中央腭脊则很发育。前上颌骨的后端向中收 缩,故到末端处只有很少一部分构成内鼻孔的前缘。 上颌骨参与内鼻孔边缘的也只有很 小一部分,而且也只限于孔的前缘。 上颌骨齿突的后内侧,在通往外翼骨的脊稜上,有一个小圆突起。在左右内鼻孔的前

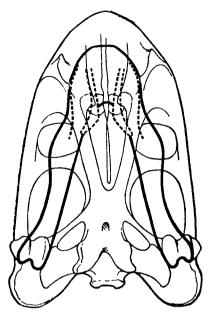


图 3. 当口闭时上下颚的咬合情况。2/3 原大

侧方为一对腭骨浮突,悬挂在腭骨前端。此对浮突与上颌骨齿突后的小圆突起均为经受下颌齿骨的磨压处,在位置上与 Daptocephalus leoniceps 的内腭突与外腭突相当。从我们的标本上可以证明当动物口闭时,下颌齿骨上的外"齿脊"压在此圆突起上,而内"齿脊"则压在腭骨浮突上(图 3)。当下颌上下移动时,"齿脊"即在上研磨。 腭骨后部与翼骨及锄骨的关系未能观察清楚,从右侧腭骨保存情况,估计腭骨后端并不很长。

锄骨的构造比较特别,前端继前上颌骨中稜形成中央腭突,但此垂直部分甚短,稍向后即转变成一对扁平而宽大的"翼状"骨,组成翼骨间凹的底部(从头骨背视则为顶部),其侧部与后部则分别与腭骨和翼骨相连。由于锄骨在前端即分叉,引起翼骨间孔(Interpterygoid foramen)极窄而长,由锄骨前端一直通到翼骨向前分叉处。此情况与 Dicynodon grimbeeki 者有点相似,但比后者更靠前。

外翼骨较发育,其后端与**翼**骨的腭骨分支以显著的锯齿状相接,经腭骨外侧,向前外方直至上颌骨后端。眼下孔不存在。

翼骨间凹之后,翼骨本部中央呈一低低的稜脊,在其后面的副蝶骨中央有一单个的血 管孔。基枕骨上卵圆孔面向侧方。镫骨未保存。

枕视: 枕平面较平坦,突出的是枕骨大孔相当宽大,该孔几成长方形,高度占枕高之三分之一。枕髁中央的脊索凹也很大,在其侧上方没有前环椎的关节面。后颞孔甚圆,在其周围的枕平面上没有显著的凹突。后颞孔的下外侧,副枕骨(Paroccipital)与鳞骨接界处形成听突。枕髁侧下方有清楚的神经孔。

下颌: 齿骨前端的脊突和与之相对的沟槽十分突出。齿骨长度占下颌总长的三分之

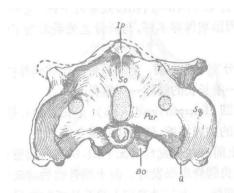


图 4. 头骨枕视。2/3 原大。简字说明: Par, 副枕骨; SO, 上枕骨;T, 棒骨。其余见图 1。

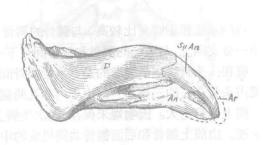


图 5. 下颌左侧视。2/3 原大。简字说明: An, 隅骨; Ar, 关节骨; D, 齿骨; SuAn, 上隅骨。

二。齿骨前端,每侧均有内外两行"齿脊"²,两内"齿脊"之间形成一宽宽的中央沟槽,此槽前宽后窄,上颌骨的中央腭突即插入此槽内。内"齿脊"上有凹凸不平的边缘,但未发现有

牙齿的生长。外"齿脊"则较平。下颌的这种装置与上颌的 腭突等构造是相对应的。

在齿槽后面,齿骨向外侧膨大成脊状突起,此脊突自前下方向后上方伸延,在下颌孔前端处膨大最甚。 齿骨背支向后直伸展到下颌孔末端,下颌孔的位置相对地向后向下推移。

齿骨缝合部分较短宽,但较高。 **吻**端向上高出齿骨边缘 5 毫米。内"齿脊"高于外"齿脊"。

鉴定与讨论

这一头骨和下颌紧密地保存在一起,经拆开修理后,并未发现犬后齿的存在,因而排除了归属内齿类(Endothiodont)的可能。

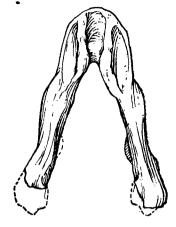


图 6. 下颌背面视, 2/3 原大。

这一标本所显示的原始性质是很明显的,除了眼前部短小、间颞部不狭窄以外,主要表现在以下几个方面: (1)外翼骨发育; (2)腭骨不直接与前颌骨相接,而为上颌骨所隔; (3)没有眼下孔; (4)翼骨间凹宽大,锄骨分叉处靠前,翼骨间孔长; (5)顶骨不增深; (6)脑颅侧壁仍相当开扩; (7)后额骨仍较发育。由此看来,它不可能是特化的二齿兽类,而是比较一般化的二齿兽属(Dicynodon)中的一成员,因为这些性质与二齿兽属中一些典型的代表是相符合的。

二齿兽属中种类繁多,加之过去研究形态不够深入(主要仅根据头骨背部构造),属内分类较乱。有人把二齿兽属称作"似二齿兽动物"的"收容所",只要头骨外表形态差不多的都被归入此属。因此属内种间详细对比比较困难,而只能粗略地作对比。

从头长与头宽之比例(即头宽度较小)以及间颞部与眼间部的宽度来看,与我们的标本可以对比的有 D. sollasi, D. venteri, D. grimbeeki, D. psittacops, D. joubertia, D. ictidops, D. testudirostris 和 D. wilmane。因顶骨外露或部分外露,D. wilmane, D. joubertia, D. ictidops 和 D. testudirostris 可以与之区别开。 D. sollasi 的前颌骨上有一显著的中央突,D. grimbeeki 的松果孔小而圆,孔后有一小突起,D. psittacops 的头骨后部特别宽,这些都与我们的标本不同。比较相近的是 D. venteri, 两者在头骨外形和眼孔位置及大小上均相若,唯后者头骨宽度仍比我们的标本为大,此外,其前顶骨也较窄,顶骨一直向前伸至松果孔前缘,这种构造在我们标本上是不存在的。

1953年,托林(Toerien)系统地研究了南非的二齿兽类,从它们腭部的构造,确定了几个真正的二齿兽属的种。1954年荷顿和勃林克(Haughton and Brink)在"非洲哈鲁系爬行动物目录"中,二齿兽一属共列出了111个种,但他们认为只有托林论述过的几个种才能可靠地归入此属,其他的种也可能归入此属,也可能归 Daptocephalus 或 Oudenodon 属。从腭部构造上,可以看出我们的标本与 D. grimbeeki 最为接近,它们的共同点在于内鼻

¹⁾ 所谓齿脊,其实并无牙齿生长,仅以此命名而已。

孔前端变窄,此外,脑颅侧壁的构造也很相似,即比较开扩,同时,副蝶骨与锄骨间有翼骨间孔相隔。虽然如此,差别依然存在:我们的标本内鼻孔前端之变窄是由于腭骨浮突的向内伸挤,而不象 D. grimbeeki 那样由于上颌骨的内挤而形成,也就是说,前者参与内鼻孔边缘组成的上颌骨较窄,而后者则较宽;在我们标本上,锄骨分叉处更靠前,换句话说,翼骨间孔更长; D. grimbeeki 的前颌骨较之于我们的标本为窄;我们标本的上翼骨顶端不如另一者那样扩大。

鉴于以上对比,我们将这一标本定为二齿兽属一新种——天山二齿兽(Dicynodon tienshanensis sp. nov.),并将此新种特征归纳如下:

较小的二齿兽类。眼间距和颞间距相若。间颞部有中等发育之顶脊,顶骨几被眶后骨覆盖。前顶骨宽大。后额骨存在。内鼻孔前端由于腭骨突的内挤而变窄。参与内鼻孔前端边缘的前颌骨和上颌骨基部都较小。锄骨中稜短,翼骨间孔长。下颌上内"齿脊"发育。

D. grimbeeki 的化石在南非西波福区异常丰富,有的有牙,有的无牙,有的仅有牙"芽"。以往都认为有牙与无牙系性别上的差别,但巴莱(1957)认为是年龄区别。我们的标本为无牙类型,只有一对齿突,而且从齿突基部 10 毫米处切开,也未发现牙齿的痕迹。是否即如巴莱所说无牙者为幼年个体,在这一种上尚值得考虑,因为我们的标本并非幼年个体,齿突亦很发育,牙齿的消失很可能为退化现象,或为性别差异。

根据化石性质,天山二齿兽的时代属上二迭世是没有问题的。但为上二迭世哪一部分则还不能确定。既然我们把它和 D. venteri 和 D. grimbeeki 相比,说明进化程度相仿。D. venteri 是产自南非哈鲁系波福层的 Cistecephalus 带的,而 D. grimbeeki 则产自 Endothiodon 带的顶部或 Cistecephalus 带。 其他如 D. sollasi, D. psittacops 等也多为 Endothiodon 带的。 因此天山二齿兽的时代只能确定为上二迭世。 至于具体层位应为仓房沟统的梧桐沟组或泉子街组,则有待于今后材料的补充。

头骨测量表 (单位:毫米)

头骨全长 (skull length)	120±
枕宽(即头骨宽) (skull breadth)	. 76
枕高 (occipital height)	54
眼间距 (interorbital width)	20
颞间距 (intertemporal width)	20
眼孔长 (orbital length)	32
颞孔长 (temporal length)	38
翼骨间孔长 (length of interpterygoid foramen)	25

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A NEW SPECIES OF DICYNODON FROM SINKIANG

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(Summary)

A second Permian dicynodont was recognized in the recently prepared material of Yuan's collection from Sinkiang. It is a skull preserved in a greyish green concretion, but unfortunately its locality and horizon are not clear. The skull is quite different from the first one described by Young as Dicynodon sinkianensis. It represents a new species of this genus, named as Dicynodon tienshanensis.

The new species is a dicynodont of rather small size. The skull is characterized by its ellipsoid dorsal outline, large anteriorly located orbits and comparatively broad snout. Maxillary process is moderately developed but with no tusk. The width of the intertemporal region is equal to that of the interorbital, and with a low parietal ridge

formed by the contacted postorbitals. Postfrontals are present and rather large. Preparietal is also large with a rough surface.

The ventral side of the skull is distinguished by the large interpterygoid fossa and the long and narrow interpterygoid foramen. The palatine forms a nodule at the anterior end which projects inside and narrows the anterior end of the internal nares. A small boss projects at the inner posterior side of the maxillary process. This boss together with the palatinal nodule undertakes the function as the pressure surface of the outer and inner "dental ridges" of the lower jaw (Fig. 3).

The side wall of the braincase is incomplete, with large gaps existing between prootic and epipterygoid, and between the latter and the upward process of parasphenoid. Parietals are not deepened, but infering from the two sections of the epipterygoid, perhaps the upper one represents the downward process of the parietal.

The occipital plate is comparatively flattened, with large foramen magnum and round posttemporal fenestra. Large notochordal pit exists on the center of the occipital condyle. No articular surface of proatlas is observed.

The "dental ridges" and grooves on the dorsal side of the lower jaw are very prominent. Between the two inner ridges, a deep and wide groove receives the opposite median ridge on the upper palate. The dentary occupies a greater portion on the whole lower jaw. The mandibular foramen is situated rather downwards and posteriorly.

The primitive characters on this skull are evident: the developed ectopterygoid, the maxillary separation of palate and premaxillary, no infraorbital foramen, large interpterygoid fossa and long interpterygoid foramen, the absence of parietal deepening, and incomplete braincase. All these features point out that this skull may represent a typical member of the genus Dicynodon. But it could be distinguished from all other species in possessing a combination of the following characters: the skull is long and narrow with a proportion of width to length about 63 percent only; temporal openings are a little larger than the orbits; intertemporal width is equal to that of interorbital; and parietals are largely covered by postorbitals and restricted behind the pineal opening. From the outline of the skull, its nearest species is Dicynodon venteri, however, our species is more narrow in the skull breadth and the parietals are not stretched anterior of the pineal opening. From the ventral side of the skull, the structure resembles closely to that of Dicynodon grimbeeki in having a large ectopterygoid and a narrowed anterior end of choana. But in our specimen, the narrowing is due to the squeezing of palate instead of by the maxillary in the latter species. Besides, the interpterygoid foramen is much longer in our species.

The diagnosis of this species may be summarized as follows:

Dicynodont of moderate size, the width of interorbital same to that of intertemporal; parietal crest low, parietals almost covered by postorbitals, preparietal large; postfrontal present, anterior end of internal nares narrowed by the inside projection of palatal nodule, narrow participation of premaxillary and maxillary to the margin of choana, median ridge of vomer short; interpterygoid foramen long, inner "dental ridge" developed.